President of Council Vanover called Council to order on December 19, 2018.

The governmental body and those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. McNear provided the Invocation.

Mrs. McNear took roll call. Council members Anderson, Ghantous, Hawkins, Shroyer, and Sullivan-Wisecup were present. Mrs. Emerson was absent.

President Vanover: Mrs. Emerson advised me, actually at the last meeting and we were in communication last night. She’s attending her son’s graduation from OCAS. So, she’s down in the warm state of Georgia right now. We have some housekeeping that we need to do real quickly. We need to do the election of the Vice President. At this point, I’ll open the floor for nominations.

Mr. Shroyer made a motion to nominate Mr. Lawrence Hawkins for Vice President of Council; Mrs. Ghantous seconded.

President Vanover: Any other nominations? (None) By acclamation, Mr. Hawkins you’re back in there.

Mr. Hawkins: Thank you.

The minutes of the December 5, 2018 meeting were considered.

Mr. Shroyer made a motion to accept the minutes; Mr. Hawkins seconded. The minutes were approved with six affirmative votes. Mrs. Emerson was not present.

Committee and Official Reports

Civil Service Commission
Mrs. Zimmerlin: Civil Service met on December 5th at 5:30 p.m. in the Administrative Conference Room. Civil Service met to review hiring processes completed in 2018. That concludes the Civil Service report. Thank you.

Rules and Laws
Mrs. Ghantous: No report

Finance Committee
Mr. Hawkins: Finance Committee met on December 3rd. All members were present. Reviewed the 2019 budget which we will go over in more detail further on down the road in the meeting. It was the recommendation of the Finance Committee that the budget be accepted. Thank you.

Planning Commission
Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: Planning Commission met on December 11th. Nelson Online at 11560 Princeton Pike came for Bank of America and they had come the month before and were not prepared. They did come this time with a new schematic that had things moved around a little bit so that they traffic flow would be better. It was accepted 7-0. In New Business we had Strategic Capital Properties at 12110 Princeton Pike – GEEAA Park. They were coming with their final development plan for roadway plans. They just came and we approved their roadway plans 7-0. Maple Knoll 11100 Springfield Pike came for a Development Plan. They are wanting 14 senior cottages. We had seen this earlier when they came with their final plan. That was approved 7-0. Pretzel Baron at 311 Northland Blvd. came with a revision to the Development Plan. Last year, they came with a two silo idea and they came with a different plan with a wall, three silos, and a thing for the oil. They didn’t have everything that we needed to make a decision and so we did table that until the January 8th meeting and hope that they bring us more accurate depictions of what we’re going to be looking at. That concludes my report unless Mr. Hawkins has anything to add.

BZA
Mrs. Ghantous: Board of Zoning Appeals met yesterday evening and we did not have any applications to review, so we just approved the minutes and that was it. Really quick.
Mayor Webster: We met on December 13th. We only had three members in attendance. Pretty normal meeting. No earth-shattering events. We did talk about the Springdale Coalition of Churches which Mr. Clayton is trying to get off the ground. Unfortunately, we only had one church represented there. I know since that meeting, he’s reached out to several of the other churches and has sort of gotten a “buy-in” that they will participate going forward. We’re pretty excited about that. We think there’s a lot of things we can do jointly for the churches and for the City. Our accreditation process is going forward. We’re over 50%. That’s right on schedule. Our Hotel/Motel Committee met on November 13th. Much to our surprise, Home II hotel, which is the phantom hotel that’s going in where Bahama Breeze now resides, showed up for the meeting. We’d just like to see him show up on the construction site a lot more than at the meeting. It is encouraging that they’re aware that we do have such a committee and hopefully they’ll be an active member of that. The Health Department continues to bill Medicaid for everything we can. Whenever we spent any amount of time educating or instructing people on getting Medicaid benefits, we can bill that to the federal government in 15 minute increments. This last quarter, we got about $10,546 of reimbursements coming from the Ohio Department of Health. The second round of food facilities inspections are in process. They will be completed in February. I will talk about Springdale Offering Support in my report. Good news on the Narcan front. We only had two overdoses in the month of November. That’s good news. The Compass Community Church has agreed to be the guest host for Cub Scouts in the Heritage Hill Elementary School area. We were looking for someplace to step forward and house that and Compass Community Church on Northland Boulevard has done that. These folks are really very active in the community. A lot of people don’t know about them, but I paid them a visit a couple of years ago and gave a presentation about the S.O.S. Program and they’ve been great contributors to that program. We won’t talk about bedbugs. (laughter) That pretty well completes Holly’s report. Thank you.

Mayor’s Report

Mayor Webster: As I promised, I would come back to S.O.S. This program just continues to blow me away the things that we’ve been able to accomplish. Just to give you a little background; we started the program in ‘05. In 2007, we had our first Christmas program and we were so proud of ourselves because we were able to identify ten needy families in the City. Mrs. Ghantous just gave me some updated information here. This year, we have helped 80 families in the Springdale area, somewhere around 245 children. The support for this program is just growing by leaps and bounds. It just blows me away some of the donations that we’ve gotten. My daughter is the Treasurer of S.O.S. and she just shared an envelope that we got this week from some anonymous donor of $200. It’s through Schwab Investment Services, but the client has instructed Schwab to donate $200 anonymously to S.O.S. So, anyway, whoever you are, thank you very much; we appreciate it. Just the donations from the people on the dais here, some of our Department Directors, the amount of money that they’ve donated just absolutely blows me away. The business community has really stepped up along with the churches as I have indicated. The thing that precedes this is the hat and coat program and gloves that we do. Mrs. Ghantous, how many families did we have this year?

Mrs. Ghantous: We had 144 coats.

Mayor Webster: Now, in full disclosure here, we got a great deal of help from the Princeton Closet with those. Mrs. Wyder does a great job with the management of that program. When Sears went out of business, she went over and cleaned out the racks and got every child’s coat they had over there. Anyway, we took care of that before the cold weather came. We were able to focus on the Christmas program and Marsha Hctor has moved on as the DARE Officer, but I’d like to take this opportunity to thank Marsha for all of her help over the years with this program. She really helped us get it off of the ground. That is a duty assignment at the Police Department. They rotate that. So, someone else will be picking that up. Matthew Clayton, our Health Commissioner has stepped forward and become the chief “go-to” person this year on that. He’s just done a marvelous job. As a matter of fact, he reached out to Humana because they supply a lot of volunteers for some of our events at
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Mayor Webster (continued): Heritage Hill Elementary School. Evidently, they've got a personnel policy that you have to give so many hours of public service. So, it's getting toward the end of the year, a lot of people had hours built up, so last week he had 34 volunteers that came into the building here and wrapped the presents. They did such a great job that we cancelled the wrapping party from the previous Sunday because the Humana people did all the work. That's just fantastic. Even businesses outside Springdale; Meijer did a great job. They gave us a $500 gift card and gave us a cut rate price on all the hams that we needed for the program. We had to use very little of the S.O.S. money. I think we were short 12 donor families, but we got a lot of donations so S.O.S. dipped into the till and took care of those 12 families. On behalf of the S.O.S. Board and everybody else, thank you very much. Thank all of you folks and everybody out there in T.V. land that made this thing a success and also had the opportunity last Friday to go down to Maple Knoll and appear on WMKV radio for a 25 minute presentation to talk about S.O.S. So, hopefully, we've sowed the seeds there for some future years. I think that's about it on S.O.S. Anyway, another very, very, successful program. On tonight's agenda, an ordinance or Resolution No. R24-2018 and Resolution No. R25-2018, you've got my appointments to the Housing, Building and Fire Appeals Board. I told Amanda to put those on, but after I got to thinking about it, that is just a Mayor's appointment. That does not need Council's confirmation. So, if we can cross those off of the agenda this evening. The other thing that I did want to touch on and I think John or someone forwarded this to all the elected officials yesterday. In the Cincinnati Business Courier, they had an article yesterday about CITIRAMA headed outside of Cincinnati again. Hopefully, this is just the first part of some great news coming our way as a result of the Springrose subdivision. By the way, I can freely talk about Springrose subdivision because I have no vested interest in it. I gave my property away, so, it's done. “CITIRAMA, the new urban home showcase from Home Builders Association of Greater Cincinnati that almost always is held within the city of Cincinnati is headed to a new part of the region next year. The home show is scheduled to be held in the city of Springdale at a new community called Springrose. The community, which is being developed by Meierjohan Building Company, will have 50 single-family home sites and is located at Kemper Road and Rose Lane.” So, hopefully, this is just the first part of some great news and great publicity that we'll get out of the fact that this subdivision is going to be built. Wanted to share that with you folks. That's all I have to report. Thank you.

Clerk of Council/Finance Director

Mrs. McNear: The General Fund Report for receipts through November 30th. Our Net Receipts budget is $18,907 million dollars and we have received $16,830 million dollars which is 89% of our anticipated budget. Our receipts are made up of five general fund resources; Earnings Tax, Real Estate Tax, Paramedic Services, Mayor's Court, and Local Government Funds. That totals $15,444 million dollars, which is 92% of the budget. For the Expenditures through November 30th, based on a Net Expenditure budget of $18,834 million dollars, we have spent $16,461 million dollars. Our General Fund balance through November 30th is $2,229 million dollars and that concludes my report.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Jones: Recently, it came up, not only in our budget discussions internally, but also some Council members have approached us about how we are doing on the Rec Center with the roof. That has been a discussion. It even came up in our Finance Committee meeting. Just wanted to share that internally. Director Karle was able to get his staff and finally get some weather where they could get up there and work on it. We ended up, now this is a temporary fix, but we ended up spending the total investment of about $4,500 and it withstood quite well with no leaks last weekend. So, we're happy about that. Again, it's a temporary fix. Long term, we're going to have to do something more permanent. The reason why we wanted to go this route is that it's estimated at about $310,000 to completely replace and fix that roof the right way. Just wanted to share that.

President Vanover: Is that it?

Mr. Jones: That's it. Thank you.

President Vanover: Okay. Thank you.
Law Director’s Report

Mr. Frank: No report

Engineer’s Report

Mr. Shvegzda: On all of our construction projects from 2018. They’re all substantially complete. They’re working on punch list items for each of those. The Beacon Hills Reconstruction Project, seeding and restoration project will take place this spring. As far as Olde Gate Drive Reconstruction Project, that is currently out to bids. We will have bid opening tomorrow and will report to Council at the next Council meeting on that. Landan Lane Reconstruction, we were successful with obtaining $139,000 20-year loan on that project so, therefore, that project won’t be advertised to bid until late October of next year. That concludes my report.

Mayor Webster: Mr. Shvegzda, I saw in your report where we’re scheduled to start construction in Spring 2020 and not complete it until the summer of 2022? What’s that about a 100 yard street?

Mr. Shvegzda: That is obviously an error and should be 2020.

Mayor Webster: Okay, construction will start and be finished in 2020?

Mr. Shvegzda: That is correct.

Mayor Webster: Thank you.

President Vanover: Council, I laid a copy of the email I got. It’s just an FYI. There’s a link in there, if you are so inclined, to go to the final verbiage of the small cell towers. It’s a 116 page document. You can peruse it at your will, but just to keep you in touch.

Communications

- None

Communications from the Audience

Mrs. Matheny: I’m just here to do my annual Charter Revision Report. The committee met on Wednesday, December 5th. All five members were in attendance. We had no issues or business to discuss. We adjourned after approximately two minutes of pleasantries. One of our members is up tonight for re-appointment, Sheila Seiter and she has agreed to and requested to be placed back on there. Thank you.

President Vanover: Thank you.

Presentation of 2019 Budget

Mr. Jones: Just a couple of notes. We worked very closely with the Department Heads. When I say “we”, I’m talking about our Mayor, Amanda, myself, and Jeff Williams and really closely with our Department Heads to get our budget together, get things in timely and get a balanced budget, which is obviously always the goal. Real pleased with that and a special thanks to Stephanie Morgan at the end, put your finished product together. I’m glad she handled that assignment and I’m not sure I would have had that packet look quite like that Mayor. So, just really wanted to say, “Thank you” to the folks for their cooperation. The Department Head were absolutely a pleasure to work with. When we presented to the Finance Committee, it was obvious to us they were prepared and had read the material because we could tell by the questions that were being thrown at us that they were very prepared. For Mr. Hawkins and Mr. Shroyer, we appreciate that.

Mr. Hawkins: Before we go through the budget, department by department, I’d like to thank Mr. Jones, Mrs. Zimmerlin, Mr. Williams, all the directors and administrative staff for their efforts in putting this together. We will go through the budget as we always do; section by section. As you review the forward that Mr. Jones put together, as we discussed previously with regard to the first reading of the request for a resolution for a tax increase, everybody can see that there are challenges that we have with regard to needing more revenue and challenges with regard to expenditures that we’re putting out in terms of being able to provide the services that our residents are used to having. As we see, over time, as we continue to do that with revenue going down and expenditures staying the same or going up, we continue to have less money in our General Fund at the end of the year. We are projected to have
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Mr. Hawkins (continued): approximately $1.7 million dollars at the end of this year, but, if we don’t make some additional changes, that will drop dramatically by the end of 2019.

Police Department - no questions/concerns

Fire Department

Mr. Anderson: Just one question. This might go back to the beginning. In the summary, it described the additional firefighter hires that were coming in under the SAFER Grant. In the summary, in the same paragraph, it said “all new hires were being denied”. I’m just trying to understand. Are we hiring the new firefighters using the SAFER Grant next year or not?

Mrs. Zimmerlin: We are.

Mr. Anderson: So, it’s the other request that we’re denying.

Mrs. Zimmerlin: Yes, the other requests were denied.

President Vanover: While we’re on Fire, we are in the second year of our lease on the new truck? So, we’ve got one more year and then we’ll have that paid off, correct? (Yes, off mic).

Mr. Hawkins: Any other questions or comments regarding the Fire Department? (None)

Health Department - no questions/concerns

Parks and Recreation Department - no questions/concerns

Building Department - no questions/concerns

Waste Collection Budget - no questions/concerns

Public Works Department - no questions/concerns

Administrative Office Budget - no questions/concerns

Economic Development Department - no questions/concerns

Finance Department - no questions/concerns

Legislative Body Budget - no questions/concerns

Other Commissions Budget - no questions/concerns

Mr. Anderson: Just one question on the cable budget item that is in here. Does this reflect the proposed change we talked about last meeting or is this still the original amount? I thought there was some discussion that we were expecting the fees to go up. Is that tentative?

President Vanover: Well, the legislation is out there. It hasn’t been finalized, so, at this point, it’s not on this. The figure we threw out was $125,000 which is the current. We don’t know per se, how that’s going to shake out, but that’s just a forewarning that this is another effect on our budget items.

Mr. Anderson: Thank you.

President Vanover: Sure.

Tax Department Budget - no questions/concerns

General Administration Budget - no questions/concerns
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Adult Sports Fund Budget   - no questions/concerns
Street Maintenance Fund Budget   - no questions/concerns
State Highway Improvement Fund Budget - no questions/concerns
Grants Fund Budget   - no questions/concerns
Court Computerization Fund Budget - no questions/concerns
Drug and Law Enforcement Funds Budget - no questions/concerns
Law Enforcement Fund Budget   - no questions/concerns
DUI Fund Budget   - no questions/concerns
Law Enforcement Training Fund Budget  - no questions/concerns
Insurance Trust Fund Budget   - no questions/concerns

Mr. Anderson: Could we go back to the Insurance Trust Fund just for a question?

Mr. Hawkins: Yes.

Mr. Anderson: So, the proposed budget is less than the last two years budgeted and expected. Is that a number that we get from MVRMA or is this just an estimate that we make?

Mrs. Zimmerlin: No, it is a number that we get from MVRMA. It’s based on our loss history the previous year.

Mr. Anderson: Okay. Thank you.

Health Insurance Trust Fund Budget   - no questions/concerns
Street Improvement Operations Fund Budget - no questions/concerns
Street Improvement Debt Fund Budget  - no questions or concerns
Housing Rehab Fund Budget   - no questions/concerns

Capital Improvement Fund Budget   - no questions/concerns

Mr. Anderson: Just one question. I know this was talked about in other contexts about Capital Improvements and delaying as much as possible due to the budget. I wonder if you could just give me some more insight on the locker room renovation one. I know we made some improvements to the Rec Center roofs. If there was $250,000 that was planned to address the Police locker room. Is there anything that can be done in that space prior to an increase in income tax? Is there any option there? Last year it felt like a very urgent item. I feel like it deserves just a little bit more discussion as to what can be done. To me, it doesn’t feel right that they’ve had to put that off, so I just didn’t know what options or what you’ve talked about.

Mrs. Zimmerlin: We have completed the engineering for the project and the design. The issue is there is settling in the walls so there’s a large space. It’s really a holistic project. It’s not something that we can “piece meal”. It is one of the projects that, if we do get the income tax increase to pass, we would really like to move forward with this as soon as possible. It’s not something that we can just move some lockers around and make more space. There’s actual engineering work that needs to be done in that space.

Mr. Hawkins: Just so everybody is clear, we had the Finance Committee Meeting. We had the discussion about the half percent increase. The discussion around it also was if that’s on the ballot, if that passes, there’s going to be some more discussion with regard to Finance Committee meeting in terms of trying to address some of these other issues that are
Mr. Hawkins (continued): more urgent. At this point, we’re sort of in the boat that we’re in in terms of the financial situation. There are some things that will get discussed should this pass and we have that additional revenue.

Mr. Anderson: Okay. In the event that it does not get passed, we would still have the opportunity to talk about this one specifically. It feels like more than just something nice to have. It feels like it’s required for the workplace to me. I understand they’re making accommodations. I’m not saying that there being negligent. It just feels more urgent than I’ve heard it talked about. I just wanted to raise that concern.

Mr. Hawkins: I guess I should say it a different way. Whether that increase passes or not, we’re going to have to have another meeting to have some discussion on some hard decisions. The hope is that we would have some additional revenue that we would be looking at maybe the second half of the year where we could see some additional things that are of dire need like that.

Mr. Anderson: In that Finance meeting, was there a discussion about even financing some of these more urgent things like the roof repair and the police locker room renovations in spite of that? If we can find $1.6 million or $3.2 million to do community development by buying old hotels, I feel like financing and fixing something like this should be urgent.

Mr. Hawkins: That may be something that’s going to take place later on, but, as far as putting this together initially; no, it wasn’t something we were moving forward on.

Mayor Webster: Mr. Anderson, you’re no more perplexed than we are about that situation. As the narrative indicates, we started off years and years ago we had like five female members of our Police Department, now we’re up to 12. About a third of our Police Department is female. I don’t know that there is any stop-gap measure we can do. Now, as far as interim financing, I think that if the increase passes, then I think that knowing that we’ll have the revenues, some of them this year and some of the majority of them will be in the subsequent years, but just knowing that the revenues are there, I think we could certainly find the money or borrow the money on a six-month note or something to address that. What John and Amanda will be doing very shortly here is putting together a list of items that we think are high priority that need to be addressed ASAP if the levy passes. I call it a levy, the earnings tax passes. Believe me, the locker room for the Police Department is at the top of the list. I don’t see that changing unless the wind blows off one of the roofs or something. Anyway, the roof down at the Rec Center is way up on the list as the remediation of the roof here of this building. We’re just in the beginning stages of that. We’re not sure whether that is a replacement or whether it’s just some extensive repairs, but something substantial has to be done to this roof also. The Police locker room is certainly first and foremost on our list and will remain there. I’m not sure, as Mr. Hawkins alluded to, if this thing fails, then we’ve got a lot of “head-scratching” to do and I think that has to be taken care of regardless.

Mr. Shroyer: As we went through the budget in the Finance Committee Meeting, the Police locker room was very high on my priority list as well, having gone through a similar situation at the Fire Department in a building that was built in the late seventies and built for what, at that time, were male fire departments. We dealt with a lot of the same issues. So, I’m very sympathetic to their issue and hold it as high a priority as everybody else does, but I think, realistically, yes, if the tax increase passes, that project will still remain at the very top of “what do we do with the new money” as far as my list goes. To think or to talk about borrowing money to do any project at this point, I think I would probably have some concerns about. If the levy increase or the tax increase doesn’t pass, I really don’t think we’re going to be talking about where do we get $250,000 to go ahead with the renovation. I think we’re going to be talking more about what else are we not going to do to try to survive the rest of this year and make it into next year. I don’t think it’s realistic to think that either of those two would occur in the near future either borrowing the money and going ahead with the project or feeling like regardless of how the tax increase goes, we’re going to go ahead with the project. I think, at this point, it’s totally dependent on the tax increase passing. Thank you.
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Residential Recycling Fund Budget - no questions/concerns
Vehicle Immobilization Fund Budget - no questions/concerns
Tri-County Mall TIF Fund Budget - no questions/concerns
Parks & Urban Forestry Fund Budget - no questions/concerns
Northwest Business Center TIF Fund Budget - no questions/concerns
Unclaimed Money Funds Budget - no questions/concerns
OBBS Assessment Funds Budget - no questions/concerns
Community Center Debt Fund Budget - no questions/concerns

Mr. Hawkins: Any questions or comments regarding revenues? (None)

Mr. Hawkins: Any questions or comments regarding the budget as a whole?

President Vanover: Just add a tip of the hat to the Administration; Mr. Jones coming in kind of at the not quite mid-stream, but at the head of it already being in process and him jumping in and picking up and I know the assist came from Amanda and the Department Heads, Mr. Williams. It’s big, but just a tip of the hat to a good job and well done.

Mayor Webster: Thank you for the comments President Vanover. I’d just like to take the opportunity to publically thank Mr. Jones and Amanda for all of their hard work on this thing. This was one of the biggest challenges we had facing with us with Mr. Parham leaving at the time that he did, the new guy coming in and I’ll give John a lot of credit. He never shied away from it. He “bellied-up” to it, gathered his staff together and together the staff put this budget together and, under the direction of Mr. Jones and Mrs. Zimmerlin and I just think they did a marvelous job. On behalf of the entire City, thank you guys very much. Job well done. No one worked until 1:00 in the morning either.

Executive Session – Collective Bargaining

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to go into Executive Session as a Committee of the Whole to consider the employment and compensation of public employees, and to review negotiations and collective bargaining sessions concerning terms and conditions of their employment. Mr. Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote to go into Executive Session. Council departed chambers at 7:42 p.m. Council returned to chambers at 8:01 p.m.

Ordinances and Resolutions

Ordinance No. 58-2018
AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 50-2017, AS AMENDED BY ORDINANCE NO. 48-2018 TO PROVIDE FOR WAGE INCREASES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mr. Shroyer made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 58-2018; Mr. Hawkins seconded.

Mayor Webster: This is consistent with the budget that you just heard presented earlier. It’s a two percent raise for everyone except the union personnel. No exceptions to that.

Mr. Anderson: Just one question. I’m hoping I can get your thoughts on the timing of the ordinance. I certainly support the employees getting the costs of living adjustment here. In light of the budget comments and the fact that we’re asking for an earnings tax increase, is there a reason that we’re doing this now as opposed to waiting until after we find out the outcome of that and making it retroactive if possible? I’m not saying I’m for or against it, I just would like your thoughts on why we’re doing this at the same time we’re asking for an increase?
Mayor Webster: Primarily we traditionally have done that. The only time that we haven’t was when we were really in bad financial straits back in ’08 and ’09 and ’10. I just don’t think the circumstance today deserves us to put that raise off for all the people. If the levy doesn’t pass, there will probably be a lot more repercussions coming along other than delaying the two percent raise going forward. For now, I think it’s prudent to go ahead and pass the thing.

Mr. Jones: The other thing with that, Mr. Anderson, is the unions, both Police and Fire are getting that raise regardless. It’s in the union negotiations; it’s already going through as long as Council approves that contract. Fire will get the same thing that Police does and because of the “me too” clause in the contract, they’re getting it regardless. So, you’re really only talking about non-union folks.

Mr. Anderson: As I understand it, the total 2019 estimate for this increase for the non-union is about $82,000. Is that right?

Mr. Jones: Correct. Yes.

Mr. Anderson: There is no concern based on the budget estimates that we have enough reserves that even with the forecasted deficit this year, we would not be getting passed our reserves with this increase.

Mr. Jones: Correct.

Mr. Anderson: Thank you.

Mr. Jones: You’re welcome.

Mr. Hawkins: To add on to what has happened in the past. The Mayor was touching on back in 2009, and 2010, the non-union employees did not get a raise. Those got frozen, meanwhile, Police and Fire were continuing on their two percent raises as they were going through. It had been said before since we were attempting to balance the budget, in part, on the non-union employees’ backs, while others were continuing to get their increases. There’s a little bit of history to add some sensitivity to it that it’s important to push for it at this point.

Mr. Anderson: I appreciate the commentary. It helps me a great deal.

Ordinance No. 58-2018 passes with a 6-0 vote (Mrs. Emerson was absent)

Ordinance No. 59-2018
ADOPTING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION/ESTIMATED RECEIPTS ORDINANCE TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES AND ADJUST ESTIMATED RECEIPTS FOR THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE, OHIO DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2018

Mr. Hawkins made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 59-2018; Mr. Shroyer seconded.

Mayor Webster: Since we have our Finance Officer in attendance here this evening, I’d just like to question as to why allow the Vehicle Immobilization Fee Fund to be overspent by $.96. (Laughter). I mean, that will probably keep you from getting the CAFR this year (laughter)

Mr. Williams: The only reason that was there was that we’re closing out that fund and there was a (inaudible). That was the difference that we had appropriated.

Mayor Webster: Okay.

Ordinance 59-2018 passes with a 6-0 vote (Mrs. Emerson was absent)
Ordinance No. 60-2018
ADOPTING A TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2019, UNTIL THE FISCAL YEAR 2018 APPROPRIATION PERMANENT ORDINANCE IS ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

Mr. Shroyer made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 60-2018; Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded.

Ordinance No. 60-2018 passes with six affirmative votes. (Mrs. Emerson was absent)

Ordinance No. 61-2018
AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CLERK OF COUNCIL/FINANCE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH THE SPRINGDALE PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS (IAFF LOCAL 4027) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 61-2018; Mr. Shroyer seconded.

Ordinance No. 61-2018 passes with six affirmative votes. (Mrs. Emerson was absent)

Resolution No. R20-2018
RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN INCREASE IN INCOME TAX TO TWO PERCENT (2.0%) AND DIRECTING THAT THE INCREASE IN INCOME TAX BE SUBMITTED TO THE ELECTORS

President Vanover: Council, this is the second reading as we said.

Mayor Webster: If I may just give a brief dissertation. I guess I could record this and just hit play every meeting. You all have heard me say on several occasions that we’re operating the City today on about two million dollars less than what we had in previous years. When we go back and compare the revenue number to 2007, it really is $2.7 million dollars. Each of the last two years, we’ve spent about $1.4 million more than we brought in. As you know, you can’t do that. This year, our carryover balance is not going to be what we’d like to see. We just don’t have the luxury to have that five percent carryover balance. We’ve gone back over revenues over the last ten years. We’ve found absolutely no surprises. A lot of big ticket items that are on there; primarily the State of Ohio has taken a meat cleaver to budgets of not only Springdale, but of other cities and villages and counties across the state. As a matter of fact, this past Sunday, there was a big article in the paper about Hamilton County and what Kasich and crew have done to that budget. That’s true with all 88 counties in the state are having revenue problems because of the money that the state has taken from them. When Governor Kasich took office, the State’s “rainy day fund” had a balance of $1.98. It now stands in excess of $2.7 billion dollars with a “b”. They’ve reached their constitutional limit. They have money that could be re-directed back to local governments, but they have chosen to do otherwise. The Governor’s refrain is, “The cities always moan and complain; they have the ability to raise their own local taxes.” Unfortunately, that is the route we’re having to take here. This is a huge amount of money to replace in our budget; around $709,000, another $953,000 came about with the elimination of the Estate Tax. That totaled around $1.6 million dollars. That came right after the economic downturn where we lost another $3.6 million dollars in local earnings tax. The good news is that we are rebuilding our earnings tax. We were hoping we’d set a record this year, but, unfortunately, we had some mishaps there, and maybe, that will happen next year. Anyway, no one likes to raise taxes. I know I certainly don’t. I don’t like recommending it, but it’s been 15 years since we’ve had to ask the voters to help us with the earnings tax. So, hopefully, it will be another 15 years before it happens again and we wouldn’t be here this evening talking about it if it was not for the drastic cuts taken by the State of Ohio. Thank you very much.

President Vanover: We’ve got two more readings of this.
President Vanover: Next up is Resolution No. R21-2018. This is a Charter Revision opening and as Mrs. Matheny stated earlier, Mrs. Sheila Seiter has indicated her willingness and eagerness to continue on. So, at this point in time I will open the floor for nominations for Charter.

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup: I would like to nominate Sheila Seiter for the Charter Revision Committee.

Mrs. Ghantous seconded the nomination.

President Vanover: Any other nominations? (None) Then, by acclamation, Mrs. McNear, would you read Resolution R21-2018.

Resolution No. R21-2018
APPOINTING SHEILA SEITER AS A MEMBER OF THE CHARTER REVISION COMMITTEE

Mrs. Ghantous made a motion to adopt; Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded.

Resolution No. R21-2018 passes with six affirmative votes. (Mrs. Emerson was absent)

President Vanover: We have R22-2018. It is an appointment to Civil Service for Robert Coleman. He had expressed a willingness and an eagerness to continue. So, at this point, we will open the floor for nominations for Civil Service.

Mr. Hawkins: I nominate Mr. Robert Coleman.

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded.

President Vanover: Any further names? (none) Then, by acclamation, Mrs. McNear will you read Resolution R21-2018.

Resolution No. R22-2018
APPOINTING ROBERT COLEMAN AS A MEMBER OF THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Mr. Hawkins made a motion to adopt; Mrs. Ghantous seconded.

Resolution No. R22-2018 passes with six affirmative votes. (Mrs. Emerson was absent)

President Vanover: Next up is R23-2018. This is an appointment to the Tax Review Board. Mrs. McNear had advised me that Mr. Gregory Johnson, who currently holds that, is willing and eager to continue. So, at this point, I will take nominations.

Mr. Hawkins: I nominate Mr. Gregory Johnson to be a member of the Tax Review Board.

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded.

Resolution No. R23-2018
APPOINTING GREGORY JOHNSON AS A MEMBER OF THE TAX REVIEW BOARD

Mr. Hawkins made a motion to adopt; Mrs. Ghantous seconded.

Resolution No. R23-2018 passes with six affirmative votes. (Mrs. Emerson was absent)

President Vanover: These are Mayoral appointments. (Resolution R24-2018 and Resolution R25-2018).
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Mayor Webster: I’d like to ask for those to be withdrawn.

President Vanover: Procedurally, we need a motion to withdraw.

Mr. Anderson: I’d like to make a motion to remove Resolution R24-2018 from tonight’s agenda.

Mr. Hawkins seconded the motion.

Motion to remove Resolution No. R24-2018 from the December 19, 2018 agenda passes with six affirmative votes.

President Vanover: Same thing on Resolution No. R25-2018.

Mr. Anderson: I’d like to make a motion to remove Resolution R25-2018 from tonight’s agenda.

Mr. Hawkins seconded the motion.

Motion to remove Resolution No. R25-2018 from the December 29, 2018 agenda passes with six affirmative votes.

President Vanover: Currently Mr. Shroyer and Mr. Anderson are members of this sub-committee, so with Resolution R26-2018, I’ll take nominations.

Mr. Shroyer had questions regarding individuals to be on the committee. The questions were off mic and inaudible.

Mr. Anderson: I think last year we went through the same discussion. I believe Mr. Shroyer is correct. I know I was appointed to it and I thought the second was the Chief. I could be mistaken though. But, I thought we had this discussion last year too.

Mrs. Zimmerlin: It’s my understanding that it’s both.

President Vanover: So, we’ll take nominations for appointment of member to Volunteer Fire Fighters’ Dependents Fund Board.

Mr. Shroyer: Are we looking for Council members?

President Vanover: Council members. Correct.

Mr. Shroyer: I’ll withdraw. Thank you.

Mr. Hawkins: I nominate Dan Shroyer as a member of the Volunteer Fire Fighters’ Dependents Fund Board in Seat 1.

Mr. Anderson seconded.

Resolution No. R26-2018

APPOINTING DAN SHRÖYER AS A MEMBER OF THE VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS’ DEPENDENTS FUND BOARD (SEAT 1)

Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup made a motion to adopt; Mr. Hawkins seconded.

Resolution No. R26-2018 passes with six affirmative votes. (Mrs. Emerson was absent).

President Vanover: Next up, Resolution R27-2018. I will open the floor for nominations for a Council member to this board.

Mr. Hawkins: I nominate Mr. Jeffrey Anderson to the Volunteer Fire Fighters’ Dependents Fund Board (Seat 2).
Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded.

Resolution No. R27-2018
APPOINTING JEFFREY ANDERSON AS A MEMBER OF THE VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS’ DEPENDENTS FUND BOARD (SEAT 2)

Mr. Hawkins made a motion to adopt; Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded.

Resolution No. R27-2018 passes with six affirmative votes. (Mrs. Emerson was absent)

Mayor Webster: Mr. Vanover, I want to get your attention before you close out Ordinances and Resolutions. We have a landmark event taking place this evening. The law firm of Wood and Lamping have served this City for 42 years and this will be the last meeting that they are serving as Law Director. I would like to ask Council to entertain a resolution commending Wood and Lamping for their 42 years of service.

President Vanover: Procedurally, we need a motion to add.

Mr. Anderson: I'd like to make a motion to add Resolution No. R28-2018 to the agenda commending Wood and Lamping LLP for their dedication and service to the City of Springdale.

Mr. Hawkins seconded the motion.

The motion to add Resolution R28-2018 to the agenda passes with six affirmative votes.

Resolution No. R28-2018
COMMENDING WOOD AND LAMPING LLP FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND SERVICE TO THE CITY OF SPRINGDALE

Mr. Hawkins made a motion to adopt; Mr. Shroyer seconded.

Mayor Webster: Yes, if I may take a moment to here to make a few comments. I was here the first day that Wood and Lamping came on the job in 1976. We enjoyed a long and great relationship with those folks. All you have to do to realize the impact that Wood and Lamping and Ken Snyder specifically have had on the City is just make a tour of all the buildings and look at the dedication plaque. I think you’ll see Mr. Snyder’s name on every one of those. That says a great deal about the longevity of the firm. If they weren’t doing the job, they would not have had the longevity that has occurred. I’d also like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Kevin Frank for his service. It’s been a very difficult time the last four or five months, but he’s done a marvelous job and very professional in everything that we’ve asked for. Kevin, thank you very much. We really appreciate your contribution.

Mr. Frank: Thank you.

Mayor Webster: Not to slight Jeff Forbes. Jeff did a lot of great work for us also. It’s just one of those things where it’s time to move on, but we do appreciate their 42 years of dedicated service. Thank you.

President Vanover: Well, I would echo that Mayor. Ken was in the seat when I came in and then Jeff transitioned, and Mr. Frank has willfully and dutifully filled in. It is, as Mayor Webster alluded to, a historic change. Because, I think of all the positions of people that I have served with on Council, it has only been one law firm. That speaks loudly. Well earned.

Resolution No. R28-2018 passes with six affirmative votes. (Mrs. Emerson was absent)
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Old Business  -  None

New Business  -  None

Meetings and Announcements

Mrs. Sullivan-Wiseecup: Tuesday, January 8th at 7:00 p.m., Planning Commission will meet in these chambers.

Mrs. Zimmerlin: Civil Service will meet in the Administrative Conference Room on January 3rd at 5:30 p.m. I also want to remind everyone that Adult Sports Registration is currently underway for women’s volleyball and adult racquetball. You can contact the Community Center for that and registration ends on December 31st. Games begin in January. AARP will be providing income tax help again this year. The one-hour sessions begin on January 2nd. They’re available every Friday morning through April, but you do have to call the Community Center to register. Thank you.

Mayor Webster: Just like to remind everyone on January 4th, the Winter Sports Rally where we will honor Mr. Ron Hogdon who will be inducted into the Youth Sports Memorial Hall of Fame. That’s at 6:30 p.m. down at the Rec Center. We will introduce all of the basketball players and cheerleaders. It’s a very nice evening. I urge all of you to come out and honor Mr. Hogdon. Thank you.

Communications from the Audience  -  None

Update on legislation still in development

Mr. Hawkins: As you review your Internal Memorandum, Item Number I was addressed with Ordinance No. 59-2018; an Ordinance Adopting the Final Appropriation and Transfer Ordinance for 2018. That passed with a 6-0 vote. Item Number II was addressed with Ordinance No. 60-2018; an Ordinance Adopting a Temporary Appropriations Ordinance for the Period January 1, 2019 until the Fiscal Year 2019 Appropriations Permanent Ordinance is Adopted by City Council. That passed with a 6-0 vote. Item Number III was addressed with Ordinance No. 58-2018; an Ordinance Setting the Employee Pay Rates for 2019 and Declaring an Emergency. That passed with a 6-0 vote. Item Number IV dealt with several Resolutions confirming Council Appointments to Various Boards, and Commissions. We had Resolution No. R21-2018; appointment Mrs. Sheila Seiter to the Charter Revision Board. We had Resolution R22-2018; appointing Mr. Robert Coleman to the Civil Service Commission Board. We had Resolution No. R23-2018; appointing Mr. Gregory Johnson to the Tax Review Board. All of which were passed with a 6-0 vote. We had Resolutions R24-2018 and R25-2018 regarding the Housing, Building, and Fire Appeals, which were removed from the agenda with a 6-0 vote. We had Resolutions R26-2018 and R27-2018; appointing Dan Shroyer and Jeffrey Anderson to the Volunteer Firefighters’ Dependents Board; both of those passing with a 6-0 vote. We had Item Number V, addressed with Ordinance No. 61-2018; An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and Clerk of Council/Finance Director to Enter Into a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Springdale Professional Fire Fighters (IAFF Local 4027) and Declaring an Emergency. That passed with a 6-0 vote. We had Item Number VI, addressed with Resolution No. R20-2018; A Resolution Proposing an Increase in Income Tax to Two Percent (2%) and Directing that the increase in Income Tax be Submitted to the Electors. That was a second reading. We also had Resolution No. R28-2018; a resolution Commending Wood and Lamping for their years of service. That passed with a 6-0 vote. All other matters were forthcoming.
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Recap of legislative items requested for next Council meeting

Mr. Hawkins: A request for a third reading of Resolution R20-2018; a Resolution Proposing an Increase in Income Tax to Two Percent (2%) and Directing that the Increase in Income Tax be Submitted to the Electors. There is also a request for an Ordinance Adopting the Annual Appropriations/Estimated Receipts for Fiscal year Ending December 31, 2019. A request for a Resolution Authorizing the Investment of Municipal Funds. There is also a request for a Resolution Requesting Advance Payment from the County Auditor. That would conclude the requests unless there is anything else from Administration or any other requests from Council.

Adjournment

Mr. Hawkins moved to adjourn. Mrs. Sullivan-Wisecup seconded the motion and Council adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy McNear
Clerk of Council/Finance Director

Minutes Approved:
Tom Vanover, President of Council

_______________________, 2019